

CONFERENCES

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Can Psychological Science Save Democracy?

Vendredi 7 juin 2024 de 14h à 16h

UPJV Campus Sud, Amphi Condorcet

Voir le résumé de la conférence en page 2

Information Integration Theory: A Unifying Theory of Cognition (and More)

Lundi 10 juin de 14h à 16h

UPJV Campus Sud, Amphi Rousset

Voir le résumé de la conférence en page 3



Ouverts à tous les enseignants-chercheurs
et les étudiants de l'UPJV

Can Psychological Science Save Democracy?

The 21st century has seen a steady, significant increase in political polarization and popular support for authoritarian politicians, policies and legislation. To better understand the driving forces behind this phenomenon, this research involves two studies conducted with the same group of American undergraduates. Each study included 4 within-subjects factors (two levels each) and 5 responses to each combination of conditions in this 2x2x2x2 full-factorial design. In the introduction, participants are told that they will be asked to evaluate a number of newly-nominated candidates for the US Presidency based on a scenario paragraph for each describing their characteristics, each combination of which were then systematically presented in random order to participants in both studies. Study 1 (Political Philosophy) factors included political party (Republican/Democrat), religious policy (integrated/separated), nationalism (high/low), and social responsibility (individual/group). Study 2 (Political Policy) factors included gun control (more/less), abortion rights (for/against), immigration (increasing/decreasing), and legal penalties for offensive speech (for/against). After each scenario in both studies, participants were asked to answer 5 questions: 1) The likelihood (0-100) that they would vote for this candidate, 2) The likelihood (0-100) that they would vote for this candidate vs. Joe Biden, 3) The likelihood (0-100) that they would vote for this candidate vs. Donald Trump, 4) Whether they would actually vote for this candidate or Joe Biden, and 5) Whether they would actually vote for this candidate vs. Donald Trump. The data collection for this research is currently in process.

Information Integration Theory: A Unifying Theory of Cognition (and More)

Developed to address the challenge of the “black box” in psychology, Information Integration Theory/Functional Measurement (IIT/FM) provides empirical answers to a wide variety of vitally important questions regarding human development, perception, emotion, judgment, decision-making, behavior, relationships, public policy and well-being, among others. It will be argued that the underlying principles of IIT/FM can also be used as a framework for indentifying, investigating and addressing broader issues and problems currently faced by individuals, communities and societies. However, IIT/FM’s significant scientific contributions and future potential are in sharp contrast with its relatively low familiarity and utilization. This talk will also discuss potential reasons for this trend, as well as potential strategies for increasing the understanding, utilization, and ongoing contributions of IIT/FM.

